

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A medical system architecture comprising:
at least one imaging modality that acquires medical examination images;
a computer workstation associated with said at least one imaging modality;
a data transfer device ~~for transferring~~ that transfers data and messages and
said medical examination images between at least one client and at
least one server;
a storage device connected to said data transfer device ~~for storing~~ that stores
at least said medical examination images;
at least one further computer workstation connected to said data transfer
device configured for post-processing said data and said examination
images; and
a proxy server in communication exclusively with said data transfer device ~~for~~
~~converting~~ configured to convert said messages between said at least
one client and said at least one server according to predetermined
transformation rules that make operation of said proxy server
transparent to said data transfer device, and thus to said at least one
imaging modality, said computer workstation, said storage device and
said at least one further computer workstation.
2. (Original) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1
wherein said data transfer device exchanges said data, examination images and
messages according to the DICOM standard.

3. (Original) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 comprising a rules memory, accessible by said proxy server, wherein said transformation rules are stored.

4. (Original) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein said proxy server comprises a software product separate from said data transfer device.

5. (Original) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein said proxy server operates at a same system node as said data transfer device.

6. (Original) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein said proxy server operates on a network node.

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. (Currently amended) A method for exchanging messages ~~between nodes of a network,~~ comprising the steps of:

providing a network comprising a plurality of nodes and a proxy server

formulating messages at a first of said nodes location which are to be

transmitted to another of such nodes location via ~~[[a]]~~ said network that

~~includes a proxy server,~~ each of said messages having a content; ~~and~~

exchanging said messages between a client and a server connected to said

network at respective nodes of said network; and

in said proxy server, manipulating the respective contents of said messages

during transmission of said messages in said network using a

computerized conversion routine employing predetermined

transformation rules that make said proxy server transparent to all of said nodes.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 7 comprising formulating said messages according to the DICOM standard.

10. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 7 comprising selectively reconfiguring said predetermined transformation rules as needed.

11. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 7 comprising storing said predetermined transformation rules in a rules memory, and executing said conversion routine to manipulate the respective contents of the messages in a proxy server having access to said rules memory.

12. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein said network comprises a plurality of DICOM nodes, and wherein the step of manipulating the respective contents of said messages comprises manipulating the respective contents of said messages in a manner transparent to said DICOM nodes.